



cket No. FIREP9910112US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re **PATENT** application of:

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Applicant: Paul A. Merendino

Application No.: 09/778,339

For: **METHOD FOR CONTROLLING PNEUMATIC TIRE PRESSURES
DURING DYNAMIC VEHICLE TEST PROCEDURES**

Filing Date: February 7, 2001

Examiner: Marissa L. Ferguson

Art Unit: 3617

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 15, 2002

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APR 29 2002

GROUP 3600

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In view of the following remarks, further and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

REMARKS

Before addressing the claim rejections in detail, the Examiner is asked to please note that applicant's invention is particularly directed towards a method of testing a tire to determine its suitability for a specific vehicle.¹ The suitability of a tire for a specific vehicle may require dynamic vehicle testing to take into account the effect that the structure of a particular vehicle (e.g., its suspension system, weight, etc.) has on the tire

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1. The trend in the tire and automobile industry is to closely match and design a particular tire as original equipment for a particular vehicle. Specifically, automobile manufacturers commonly equip a vehicle with a set of tires which have been found to provide the most desirable wear and ride characteristics for that particular vehicle.